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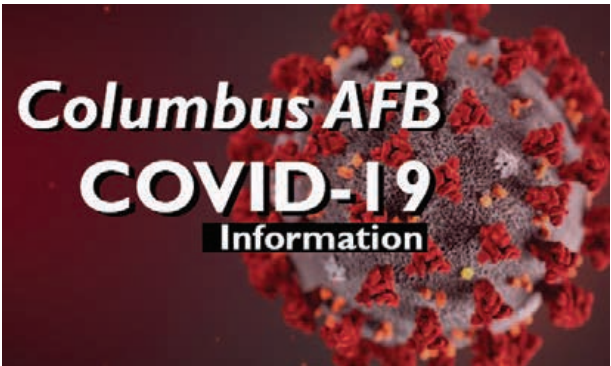
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SILVER WINGS

Vol. 46, Issue 1

“Train World Class Pilots”
Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

January 14, 2022



COVID-19 General Info

The base is continually focusing to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus and will persistently prioritize the safety of the Airmen, families and communities of Columbus.

Off-limit areas include any business or establishment that does not comply with Federal, State, and local COVID requirements. See Pg. 2 for more COVID-19 info.

Social Gathering Limitations

- Kaye – 92 person limit
- Event Center/Club – 145 person limit
- Phillips Auditorium – 22 person limit
- Walker Center – 112 person limit



U.S. Air Force photo by Nicholas Pilch
The U.S. Air Force Total Force Band takes a photo with Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. CQ Brown, Jr., (front row center), before the Tournament of Roses Parade and Rose Bowl Dec. 31, 2021, in Pasadena, Calif.. America's Air Force participated in America's New Year Celebration to kickoff 2022 and the yearlong celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Department of the Air Force.

With 2022's arrival, U.S. Air Force gears up to commemorate its 75th anniversary

**Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs**

WASHINGTON — It's never too early to start celebrating a major milestone, which explains why the U.S. Air Force and Department of the Air Force

kicked off the year with a bang Jan. 1 by highlighting the start of their 75th year at the Tournament of Roses Parade and the Rose Bowl.

Seventy-five years after the Air Force's birth on Sept. 18, 1947, the spirit of innovation that has driven the service was

on display when a B-2 Spirit from the 509th Bomb Wing, located at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, roared over the Tournament of Roses Parade and one of the most prestigious college bowl games,

See ANNIVERSARY, Page 3

CHECK OUT COLUMBUS AFB ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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COVID-19

Coronavirus Disease 2019

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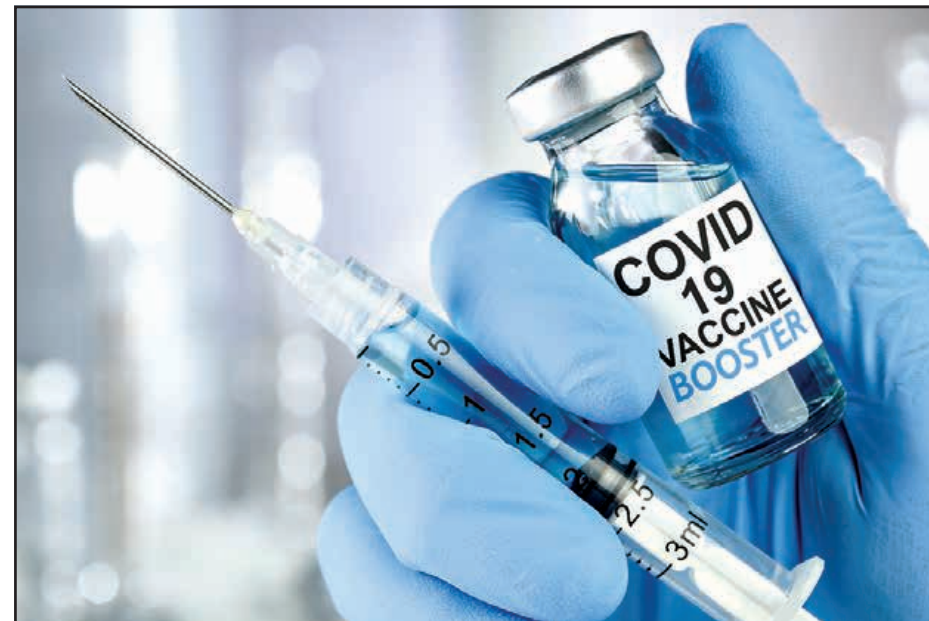
Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Airmen and Guardians who are eligible and elect to receive a booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine are authorized a four-hour pass, or up to four-hours administrative leave for Department of the Air Force civilians.

“We strongly encourage all Airmen, Guardians, and DAF federal employees to receive a booster. As COVID-19 cases continue to surge, we need to do everything possible to protect ourselves, our families, and our communities—that means getting a booster,” said Under Secretary of the Air Force Gina Ortiz Jones. “The four-hour authorized time may be applied retroactively for those who have already received the booster.”

The Office of Personnel Management authorizes federal employees up to four hours of administrative leave to receive a vaccine booster shot, which is designed to cover “the time it takes to travel to the vaccination site, receive the vaccination dose, and return to work.”

If federal employees take less than four hours to receive their booster shot, they should be granted only that amount of time in administrative leave, and employees cannot receive leave or overtime if



iStock image

they get their booster shot outside of their normal work hours.

Federal employees are also authorized up to four hours of administrative leave to accompany their family members who are receiving any dose of a COVID-19 vaccination.

Federal employees should obtain advance approval from their supervisor before

being permitted to use administrative leave for COVID-19 vaccination purposes.

To date, more than 95% of Total Force Airmen and Guardians have been vaccinated. For the latest information on DAF COVID policies, statistics, news and resources, visit the DAF COVID-19 website on AF.mil or Spaceforce.mil.

Commander's Action Line

662-434-1414

In an effort to stay Connected, the Commander's Action Line is your direct link to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB better.

Although the Commander's Action Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain-of-command. The Commander's Action Line can be reached at 434-1414. Leave your name and phone number or email if you would like to receive an answer. All names will be kept confidential.

If you would like to remain anonymous, please submit your inquiries through our base application in the ‘Our Wing’ then ‘Contact the CC’ tab or you can submit through the webpage at www.columbus.af.mil. Click “Contact Us” at the top left of the page and select “Commander's Action Line” in the Recipient drop down menu.



Silver Wings

How to reach us

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Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week's SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

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Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2424.

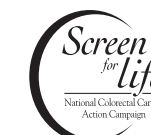
This is personal.



Photo: Andrew Macpherson

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U.S. Air Force photo by Nicholas Pilch

The U.S. Air Force Total Force Band plays in the Tournament of Roses Parade Jan. 1, 2022, in Pasadena, Calif. America's Air Force participated in America's New Year Celebration to kickoff 2022 and the yearlong celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Department of the Air Force.

ANNIVERSARY

(Continued from page 1)

the 2022 Rose Bowl, to kick-off the yearlong 75th-anniversary celebration.

The B-2 has supported the Tournament of Roses and Rose Bowl for nearly two decades, showcasing one of the Air Force's premier weapon systems over the skies of Pasadena to inspire a future generation of patriotism and aviation.

Joining the B-2 this year to kick off the celebration was an Air Force Total Force Band, comprised of 75 Airmen-Musicians from 14 units. Fittingly, the band marched in the 75th spot in the Tournament of Roses parade lineup.

The Airmen taking part in the start of the year celebration highlighted one of the service's greatest strengths: the nearly 700,000 active duty, Guard, Reserve and civilian Airmen who remain the heart and soul of the service, said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. CQ Brown, Jr., who currently serves as the service's highest ranking military officer.

"Ever since the Air Force became a separate military service, empowered Airmen have pushed the boundaries of technology and innovation that have allowed the service to excel and keep pace with the rapid changes and the demands placed upon us," Brown said. "Our commemoration of this important anniversary provides a chance to reflect on the amazing accomplishments of our service and those who have served among its ranks since 1947, while also celebrating the boundless future that lies ahead."

Brown added, "As the Air Force approaches its 75th anniversary, we have a responsibility to our nation and our international allies and partners. I am confident that our Airmen will continue to innovate, accelerate and thrive so that we can execute our mission to Fly, Fight, and Win... Airpower Anytime, Anywhere."

To honor the past, present and future, the theme for the

75th anniversary is "Innovate, Accelerate, Thrive – The Air Force at 75." That focus captures a range of activities and observations that will take place throughout the year and highlight the anniversary's significance.

"The 75th anniversaries of the U.S. Air Force and the Department of the Air Force provides a unique opportunity to highlight the contributions of our Total Force Airmen, both past and present, who have fought and defended our nation in air and space," Secretary of the Air Force Frank Kendall said. "When you think about what the Air Force has accomplished since its inception in 1947, there's so much to be proud of – it's truly incredible."

"These past 75 years have showcased the service's ability to adapt to any situation and provide unparalleled airpower as well as spacepower right up to the establishment of the U.S. Space Force within the Department of the Air Force in 2019," he said. "As we look ahead to the next 75 years, we must continue to adapt and modernize so that our Airmen and Guardians have the warfighting capabilities they need to stay ahead of our pacing challenges, while also ensuring they and their families have the resources they need to thrive. One team, one fight!"

Throughout 2022, the Air Force will celebrate its 75th milestone with various events around the U.S. and worldwide to showcase the values, commitment, and expertise of America's Total Force Airmen, past and present. In addition, the service will spotlight its history, accomplishments, and many of the pioneering Airmen whose innovation, dedication to mission, and war-fighting spirit helped established the U.S. Air Force of today.

Innovation fueled by Airmen has always been a part of the Air Force's heritage, even before it became an independent service in 1947.

Maj. Gen. Billy Mitchell, also known as the "Father of the Air Force," was one Airman who paved the way for the



U.S. Air Force photo by Nicholas Pilch

Bob Miller, Tournament of Roses president, and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. CQ Brown, Jr., present a cake in honor of the Air Force's upcoming 75th birthday Dec. 30, 2021 in Pasadena, Calif. America's Air Force participated in America's New Year Celebration to kickoff 2022 and the yearlong celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Department of the Air Force.

service. According to military historians, his commitment to pushing boundaries and working towards a distinct aerial service branch seeded a renaissance for the airpower legacy that would distinguish itself during conflicts across the globe for years to come.

Likewise, Gen. Henry H. "Hap" Arnold, who was designated the first and only five-star General of the Air Force by President Truman, also played a key role in leading, developing and innovating American military airpower during World War II, providing the necessary vision and drive to ultimately create the conditions for an independent U.S. Air Force following the war. Today, Gen. Arnold is considered an airpower pioneer whose efforts helped to lay the foundation for modern Air Force logistics, R&D, and operations, according to the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force.

The Air Force's history is also the history of the nation's advancements in space. Under the Air Force's early space pioneers such as Gen. Bernard Schriever, the Air Force developed and integrated the technologies that put U.S. rockets and satellites into space. By Operation Desert Storm in 1991, often called the nation's first space war, space became central to nearly all military operations. These same technologies that brought victory in Desert Storm, such as GPS and communication satellites, are now essential to modern life in America. The importance of space grew to such an extent that the U.S. Space Force emerged as an independent service within the Department of the Air Force in 2019.

"This is what is being celebrated as the U.S. Air Force and the Department of the Air Force enter their 75th years and what was on display in the skies over California when the B-2 roared overhead: 75 years of American airpower, spacepower, and innovation that have secured our nation and made us stronger," said Brig. Gen. Patrick Ryder, Department of the Air Force Public Affairs director.

Kirklin assumes command of the 41st Buzzsaws

Senior Airman Jake Jacobsen
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Russell Kirklin gained command of the 41st Flying Training Squadron during a change of command ceremony held at the Walker Center, Dec 16, 2021, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

Before Kirklin assumed command of the 41st FTS, Lt. Col. Timothy Thoren was leading the squadron in their mission to train future Air Force military aviators in Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training in the T-6A Texan II.

Thoren lead the 41st FTS Buzzsaws to the creation of over 300 pilots while dealing with a global pandemic and a syllabus overhaul. He set out to try and restore normalcy in daily operations, improve instructor pilot and student relationships, and create better training environments.

“Soon I will pass the guidon and with it the so called ‘burden of command’, but I want the buzzsaws to know that it hasn’t been a burden at all,” said Thoren. “It has been an absolute blessing and I thank you for an incredible 22 months. It has been an honor serving with everyone.”

The 41st FTS also trains partner nation military pilots each year through both the Foreign Military

“Soon I will pass the guidon and with it the so called ‘burden of command’, but I want the buzzsaws to know that it hasn’t been a burden at all,” said Thoren.

Sales program and the International Aviation Leadership program. Foreign pilots train in the T-6 before moving to the next track flying more advanced aircraft like the T-38 Talon or T-1A Jayhawk.

Kirklin addressed the Buzzsaws as their commander for the first time at the ceremony and expressed his eagerness for the opportunities that will arise in the future. He also made 3 commitments as their leader.

“First I will do my best to be a happy leader,” said Kirklin. “Second, I will use this position for good and finally, I will expect a lot from the members of the 41st. I will give you everything I have as I serve as your commander and I will not give up.”



U.S. Air Force photo by Melissa Duncan-Doublin
U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Russell Kirklin, 41st Flying Training Squadron gaining commander, speaks at the change of command ceremony Dec. 20, 2021, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The Air Force has a Permanent Change of Station cycle causing summers to have more ceremonies in comparison to the winter.



U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Payton Craven
U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Timothy Thoren, 41st Flying Training Squadron outgoing commander, gives members of the 41st FTS a salute at the change of command ceremony Dec. 20, 2021, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. On June 1, 1972, the 14th Flying Training Wing activated at Columbus AFB with a mission to train military pilots.



U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Payton Craven
Attendants of the 41st Flying Training Squadron change of command bow their heads in prayer in the Walker Center Dec. 20, 2021, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The formal change of command ceremony allowed troops the opportunity to witness the proceedings and see their new commander take charge.

COMMUNITY

(Continued from page 11)

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the A&FRC. We have volunteer opportunities located across the base for one-time events, special events or on a continual basis. Volunteers are needed on base at the Youth Center, Child Development Center, Library, Medical Clinic, Chapel, Airman’s Attic, Thrift Store, the Retiree Activities Office and many other locations. For more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Installation Voting Assistance Office

A&FRC houses the Voting Assistance Office (VAO) which is open Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and closed weekends/holidays. The VAO offers voting assistance including voter registration, absentee ballot requests and voting, change of address, and provides answers for other general voting questions to uniformed service members, their family members and civilians with access to A&FRC. Assistance includes but is not limited to aid in preparing and submitting Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) SF-76, Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) SF-186 and National Mail Voter Registration Form (NVRF). The VAO also leads and trains all installation unit voting assistance officers. For more information, please contact the Installation VAO at (662) 434-2701/2790 or e-mail: vote.columbus@us.af.mil.

FSS

(Continued from page 12)

Assignment Night Transportation

Book Assignment Night transportation with ITT! Reserve the bus, the van or both! The cost is only \$30 per hour for Columbus and local areas; a \$30 deposit is required and applied to the total cost of reservation. Reservation must be a minimum of four hours and reserved in person. For more information, contact (662) 434-7861.

Exclusive Military Vacation Packages

Did you know that you can book exclusive military vacation packages at ITT and save up to 60%? American Forces Travel is now serving APF and NAF civilians. Packages include Universal Studios and Disney destinations. To book your vacation at www.americaforcetravel.com

Discovery Resource Center

The Columbus A&FRC has computers with internet access available for job searches, assessments, resumes, cover letters, state and federal applications and companies’ employment information. A printer and fax machine is available. A lending library of books, DVDs and periodicals on transition and EFMP topics are available for check out. These resources are available on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Pre- and Post-Deployment Tour Briefing

These briefings are mandatory for active duty personnel who are either deploying or returning from deployment or a remote tour. Please contact A&FRC at (662) 434-2794/2790 to schedule a briefing and/or for more information.

Pre-Separation Counseling

This counseling is a mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring, and is to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation. It may be completed up to 12 months prior to separation or 24 months prior to retirement. Please contact A&FRC at (662) 434-2790 to schedule a counseling session and/or for more information.

Employment Workshop

An employment workshop on local and base employment opportunities is held every Wednesday, 1-2 p.m. This program provides military families and DoD civilian members individual assessment and career

FSS Gift Cards

Make your shopping easier! Purchase or redeem your FSS Gift Card at the following locations: Arts and Crafts, Bowling Center, Child Development Center, Columbus Club, Information Tickets and Travel, Outdoor Recreation or the Youth Center. For more information, stop by any of these locations.

Horse Boarding Available

The CAFB Riding Stables usually has stall space available. For pricing and more information, contact Outdoor Recreation at (662) 434-2505.

Free Mango Languages

Learn a new language today! Free Mango Languages available at the Base Library; real-life conversations in over 70 languages. For more information, contact (662) 434-2934.

Lawn Mower and Bicycle Repair

Outdoor Recreation is now offering

counseling to assist with local employment, preparation for future endeavors via education, job search, or self-owned business objectives in the local area. For more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Survivor Benefit Plan

Are you nearing military retirement? The one decision you will need to make before you retire involves participation in the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP). As with all good decision-making, you need to know the facts before you can make a sound decision. Always get the true facts about SBP before making up your mind. Additional details are available by calling your SBP Counselor Mary Chambers at (662) 434-2720/2790.

Personal Financial Readiness

Need help with financial matters? Want to make the most of your money? The Personal Financial Counselor (PFC) can help you and your family: manage finances, resolve financial problems and reach long-term goals such as education, buying a home and planning for retirement. PFC services are at no cost, private and confidential. Please contact the PFC at (662) 998-0411.

Key Spouse Program (KSP)

The mission of KSP is to provide information and resources to military spouses, supporting families in successfully navigating through the military life cycle. The KSP is a CC’s program. The CC establishes and maintains the program within the unit, to include

lawn mower repair and a self-help bicycle repair station that patrons can use for free. For more information, contact (662) 434-2507.

Hobby and Craft Instructors Needed

Do you have a hobby or craft project you can share with others? Arts & Crafts is looking for craft instructors. For more information, contact (662) 434-7836.

Wood Shop

The Wood Shop is now open by appointment only, Tuesday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The cost is \$5 for first hour and \$3 for every hour after the first. Please call (662) 434-7836 for any questions.

Referees Needed

Referees needed for various sports at the Fitness Center. For more information or to sign up, contact (662) 434-2772.

choosing team members. Once selected as a KS in writing, you will need to attend initial/ refresher KS training and continuing education. For more information, please call (662) 434-2839.

Military and Family Life Counselor Program

Military and Family Life Counselors (MFLCs) provide non-medical counseling to help Airmen (single and married), spouses and other family members cope with stressful situations created by deployments, reintegration and life challenges such as martial issues, parenting, career stress and anger. All counselors are licensed mental health providers, and they can meet either on or off base. There is no charge for services, and appointments can usually be made within one to two days. To contact the MFLC, please call (662) 435-1110.

Sponsorship Training

An electronic version of sponsorship training called eSponsorship Application & Training (eSAT) is the required training course to become a sponsor. It can be found in Military One Source’s MillLife Learning training Course Catalog at this link <https://millifilearning.militaryonesource.mil/MOS/f?p=SIS:2:0:> More online resources are available on Columbus AFB Living at <https://www.columbusafbliving.com/airmen-family-readiness-center/relocaiton-assistance/electronic-sponsor-resources/>. For additional information, please contact the A&FRC Relocation Manager at (662) 434-2701/2790.

RV Storage Lot

Don’t clutter your home space, park with us. Outdoor Recreation offers a great place to store your RV year around. You will have 24-hour access and can pay monthly or yearly. For more information, call (662) 434-2505.

Instructors Needed

The Youth Center is seeking instructors for tumbling classes, dance classes, piano and guitar lessons. For more information, contact the Youth Center.

Space A Lodging

The Magnolia Inn usually has openings for Space A family and single units. Contact the lodging desk at (662) 434-2548. Guest Services staff is on duty from 6 a.m.-10 p.m. daily. For reservations 24/7, visit <https://af.dodlodging.net/propertytys/Columbus-AFB>.

Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events

Join our Facebook page at Columbus AFB Living, Instagram at columbus_afb_living, or visit our website at ColumbusAFBLiving.com to keep up to date with all the great events happening around base. Check out the calendar on the website for important Airman and Family Readiness Center events. For more information, contact (662) 434-2337.

Get Connected with Your Base App!

As a way to connect people together, Columbus Air Force Base launched a new app to connect Airmen and families to the mission and community! The app is available on all app stores and can be found by searching 'Columbus Air Force Base'.

The Print Shop Has Moved!

The Print Shop has moved to The Commons, building 715, room 128. It is located in the back of the Commons and can be accessed either from the main entrance or from the parking lot directly behind the base Chapel. Services include large format printing, mounting, laminating, color and black/white copying, binding, and much more. For a quote call (662) 434-2337 or email 14FSSColumbus@gmail.com.

Youth Program's After School Care

The Youth Center is offers After School Care for ages 5-12. The center provides games, sports, arts & crafts, educational enrichment, social skills, leadership building and much more. Request care at MilitaryChildCare.com or call (662) 434-2504 for more information.

Library

The Library, located in The Blaze Commons, is open for in-house customers Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and closed Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. For everyone's safety, masks are required for patrons ages 3 and up and parents must remain with their children at all times.

The Library is hosting Story Time at your library every Tuesday at 10 a.m. Meet in the Blaze Commons open area for a story read by your favorite Librarians!

January Activities

Your Library will have several activities for patrons to participate in during the month of January! On Jan. 25, come to the Library and make a prediction for whether or not the groundhog will see his shadow on Groundhog Day. On National Spouses Day, Jan. 26, spouses may stop by the Library for a special gift. On National Lego Day, Jan. 28, patrons are encouraged to post a picture of a Lego design they've built to the Library's Facebook page. The participant with the most likes on their post will win a special prize.

See all of the Library's activities visit their Facebook page: @ColumbusAirForceBaseLibrary.

Fitness Center

The Fitness Center will host the Run Across the 'Sipp program beginning Jan. 15. Participants will run locally 510 miles, equal to the length of the Mississippi River from Memphis to the Gulf of Mexico, at their own pace over time. Participants are asked to sign up by visiting signugnugenius.com/go/runthesipp and they will log their mileage at the Fitness Center each time they run. Awards will be given to the first 5

AUTO HOBBY SHOP

NOW OPEN

HOURS:

FRIDAYS: 1600-2000
SAT & SUN: 1000-1700

CALL 434-7856 FOR MORE INFO

LIFTS: \$10 PER HOUR
BAYS: \$5 PER HOUR

CASH ONLY

AIR FORCE
AUTO HOBBY
FORCE

participants to complete the entire run.

Join the Fitness Center for the Sweetheart 5K on Feb. 12 at 9 am!

The Columbus AFB Fitness Center and the Alpha Warrior tent is open Monday-Friday 5 a.m.-9 p.m. and on Saturday 8 a.m.-6 p.m. It is open on Sunday for 24/7 Access members only (CAC must be registered at the front desk prior to use).

The Fitness Center is now serving all DoD cardholders and eligible contractors during normal hours of operation.

24/7 access is available to not only Active Duty patrons, but also any DoD cardholder such as dependents, retirees, and civilian employees. CAC must be registered at the front desk.

Also, the locker rooms and showers are once again available.

Please note there will 100% ID card check, limited rental equipment available, and other risk mitigation plans still apply. For more information, call the Fitness Center at (662) 434-2772.

Also, the basketball and racquetball courts are now available! Check-in at the front desk required.

Arts & Craft Has Re-Opened!

Arts & Crafts has reopened and ready to serve your framing, engraving, and wood working needs, Monday – Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Call (662) 434-7856 for assistance.

Auto Hobby Shop Has Re-Opened!

The Auto Hobby Shop located by Arts & Crafts will now be open on Fridays, 4-8 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Lifts are \$10 per hour of use, and bays are \$5 per hour of use. Cash only. Call (662) 434-7856 for more information

Outdoor Recreation

Outdoor Recreation's (ODR) hours are Monday, Thursday, and Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.(closed Tuesday and Wednesday) and Saturday/Sunday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. ODR offers all sorts of rental for the water, camping, and much more! Call ODR at (662) 434-2505 for all of your outdoor activities.

Coffee House on 5th

Coffee House on 5th, located in the Blaze Commons, is back open to 50% capacity inside. Drive through or come in to enjoy a cup of coffee or a tasty treat. Their hours are Monday-Friday, 6 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m.- noon. Call for more information at (662) 434-2233.

Bowling Center

Bowling lanes will be available by appointment or walk-in, Monday-Friday from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday-Friday from 3-7 p.m.

On Wednesdays, the Bowling Center will have a Pizza and Bowling Special. Pay \$25 for a lane (up to 5 people per lane) and get 1 hour of unlimited bowling games, shoe rentals, and 1 large pizza of your choice (cheese, pepperoni, or sausage from Lost Pizza Co.). Patrons must reserve on the Bowling Center's Facebook page NLT 12:00 p.m. on the previous Tuesday with their choice of pizza. Also on Wednesdays, there will be a Walk-In Special. Pay \$10 for a lane (up to 5 people per lane) and get 1 hour of unlimited bowling games, shoe rentals not included.

Pins & Pints will be on Thursdays from 3-7 p.m. Pay \$1 per game, shoe rentals not included. Draft beer will be available for purchase.

Family Cosmic Unlimited Bowling will be on Friday from 5-7 p.m. Pay \$20 per lane (up to 5 people per lane) and get 2 hours of unlimited bowling, shoe rentals included. This will be a family friendly atmosphere with cosmic lights and music videos.

Walk-ins are welcome or call for reservations, call (662) 434-3426 or on Facebook @ColumbusAFBBowlingCenter.

Strike Zone Grill at the Bowling Center! Snack Bar at the Bowling Center

The Strike Zone Grill (also known as the Snack Bar) is open for DINE-IN and TAKE-OUT service. The expanded eating area will allow for social distancing. Only grab'n go products will be available including during bowling, during Bowling Center hours.

The StrikeZone Grill is open for breakfast and lunch. For breakfast they are open from 6:30 a.m.-10 a.m. Monday-Friday. For lunch, the grill is open from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Monday-Friday. The center is closed on Saturday and Sunday. For take-out orders, call 434- 3426.

Information, Tickets & Travel (ITT)

Local ITT Customer Service will be temporarily handle by Keesler AFB. Please call Holly or Trish at (228) 377-3818 Tuesday-Friday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Local Shuttle Service will be handled by ODR on Monday, Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m.-1 p.m. This includes shuttle service to the airport of your choice. Stop by ODR or call (662) 434-2505 for more information.

See FSS, Page 13



U.S. Air Force photo by Elizabeth Owens

Members of the 49th Fighter Training Squadron salute Lt. Col. Aaron Jones, 49th FTS incoming commander Dec. 16, 2021, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The 49th FTS teaches newly graduated fighter pilots by operating the T-38 Talon aircraft to conduct flight training as well as fighter fundamentals.

49th FTS Black Knights applaud new commander

Senior Airman Jake Jacobsen 14th Flying Training Wing

The 49th Fighter Training Squadron held a change of command ceremony at the Walker Center where Lt. Col. Darin Elgersma relieved command to Lt. Col. Aaron Jones, Dec. 16, 2021, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

The 49th Fighter Training Squadron mission is to create wingmen for the Combat Air Force by teaching procedures and techniques of fighter aircraft. They conduct Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals (IFF) training for over 75 U.S. Air Force and international pilots and Weapon System Officers annually.

In his time as the commander, Elgersma led the unit to produce more fighter wingmen than previously produced over the last 14 years. He led the squadron to 4,600 sorties and 4,200 hours culminating in the graduation of 94 pilots for the U.S. and 7 partner nations.

"What has impressed me the most was the environment that he set in his squadron here at Columbus," said Col. Justin Spears, 14th Operations Group commander. "He is a caring leader with a huge heart and I can't thank him enough for his leadership here at



U.S. Air Force photo by Elizabeth Owens

U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Darin Elgersma, 49th Fighter Training Squadron outgoing commander gives closing remarks at the change of command ceremony Dec. 16, 2021, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. The mission of the 49th FTS is to develop fighter wingmen with the vision to embody pride in their mission, continuously advance tactical proficiency and demonstrate the highest level of professionalism.



U.S. Air Force photo by Elizabeth Owens

The 49th Fighter Training Squadron T-38 Talon heritage flagship gets the commander name changed Dec. 16, 2021, on Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Squadron Flagships are named after the current commander and are revealed during Change of Command ceremonies.

the 49th FTS."

At the ceremony, Elgersma was awarded the meritorious service medal presented

by Spears for his achievements as the commander.

"I can't tell you the joy I have gotten to

show up these last few years and work with the Black Knights," said Elgersma. "The 49th is very precious to us, so my family and I are delighted to hand off the squadron to such capable hands."

Now in the hands of Jones, the 49th FTS will move into the new year with his new ideals and expertise.

"I am genuinely excited and honored for this opportunity to lead such proud, proficient and professional Airmen," said Jones. "Getting to know most of you over the last 5 months have been phenomenal and I am looking forward to the challenges and rewarding experiences of being your commander."

The squadron was designated the 49th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron in 1952. It was activated to replace an Air National Guard squadron that was being released from active duty at Dow Air Force Base, Maine but was inactivated again in 1987 as the Air National Guard took over the air defense mission.

In 1990, the unit was designated the 49th Flying Training Squadron here in Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. Conducting the advanced phase of undergraduate pilot training. In 2003 its name was changed to the 49th Fighter Training Squadron to reflect its mission.

Iridescence on the water

Michael Jago
14th Civil Engineer Squadron

A sharp-eyed runner recently spotted a sheen on the water and reported it to the base fire department. This was 100% the correct response. The drainages on base all potentially could have oil or fuel from aircraft operations, personal vehicles, or other spill and leaks. Please call those in to the fire department after business hours or call 14th CES environmental at (662) 434-3130 or (662) 434-7974.

The good news is this time it was not oil, even though it look very similar. This time the sheen was from iron bacteria naturally forming a shiny layer of organic iron. The phenomenon is common in wells and underground water springs as the water emerges from underground. Our storm water pipes get a lot of infiltration of underground water so they are rich in the iron bacteria. The bacteria is harmless and dissolves naturally back in the water.

14th CES storm water expert, Jen-

nifer Richards, responds to all calls of weird colors, sheen, bubbles, smells and oil on the surface water observed on-base. If you happen to notice something of this nature, please call the number listed above as soon as possible. It is our job and responsibility to protect our natural resources. The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality has worked to have the nearby Tombigbee River declared a sports and recreation area based on water quality. Our part is to help keep it this way by not polluting and reporting suspected problems so they can be addressed and cleaned up if necessary.

For more on the iron bacteria phenomena mentioned above, check out these sites:

<https://angelwater.com/local-water/problems-with-water/why-is-there-oily-film-floating-on-water/>

<https://www.kirklandwa.gov/files/sharedassets/public/public-works/surface-water/iron-bacteria.pdf>

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/OurCommonWealth/pages/Article.aspx?post=45>

Last Look Area

Recycling is what the Last Look Area provides! Slightly used furniture and equipment is available to all Columbus Air Force Base facilities for free. Pick-up and delivery is the customer's responsibility. There is a three-day maximum for customers who wish to reserve items.

Facility hours are from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Monday through Friday.

Need more information?

Contact Inspections at

662) 434-7231 or (662) 434-7332.

Parking is available at the back of building 158.



THE AIRMAN'S CREED

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN.
I AM A WARRIOR.
I HAVE ANSWERED MY NATION'S CALL.

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN.
MY MISSION IS TO FLY, FIGHT, AND WIN.
I AM FAITHFUL TO A PROUD HERITAGE,
A TRADITION OF HONOR,
AND A LEGACY OF VALOR.

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN,
GUARDIAN OF FREEDOM AND JUSTICE,
MY NATION'S SWORD AND SHIELD,
ITS SENTRY AND AVENGER.
I DEFEND MY COUNTRY WITH MY LIFE.

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN:
WINGMAN, LEADER, WARRIOR.
I WILL NEVER LEAVE AN AIRMAN BEHIND,
I WILL NEVER FALTER,
AND I WILL NOT FAIL.

Base Thrift Shop

The Base Thrift Shop is open from
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Consignments are welcome until noon. Donations are accepted and very much appreciated. Donations can now be dropped off on the loading dock and inside the front doors 24/7. If they are left anywhere else we do not receive them.



It is located in
building 530.

Call
(662) 434-2954.



The shop is a non-profit and all proceeds benefit Columbus Air Force Base Community.

Air Force Readiness Programs

(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the Airman & Family Readiness Center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call 434-2790.)

"Please note events are subject to change due to COVID-19, so please contact A&FRC to confirm all events"

Smooth Move Relocation Workshop

The next Smooth Move is from 10-11 a.m. Jan. 18 in the A&FRC. This workshop is highly recommended for first-time and over-seas relocating members. Get the very latest moving information straight from base-wide relocation assistance agencies. Learn what to expect before you move with information from Tri-Care, Housing, Military Pay, TMO, Medical Records and A&FRC. Be sure to ask any relocating questions you may have during this event. Pre-registration is required, so call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790 to register or for more information.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

The next Wing Newcomers Orientation will be held on Jan. 25 from 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Columbus Club. This event is mandatory for all newly arrived military and DoD civilian personnel. The event's foundation is the base's mobile App, so if you are registered, please locate and download the Columbus Air Force Base App from the App Store prior to attending. Pre-registration is required, so please contact your unit CSS to be registered. For more information, please call the A&FRC Relocation Manager at (662) 434-2701/2790.

Entrepreneurship Track Transition Workshop

The next Entrepreneurship Track Transition workshop will be held Jan. 27-28 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. This workshop is conducted by the Small Business Administration for veterans and all base personnel interested starting up and operating their own business. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Department of Labor Transition Vocational Track Workshop

The next DoL Transition Vocational Track Workshop is from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Feb. 7-8 and will be held in the A&FRC. This workshop helps members identify skills, increase awareness of training and credentialing programs, and develop an action plan to



Col. Jeffrey Welborn, 14th Mission Support Group Commander, poses for a photo with members of the Columbus Municipal School District on Dec. 21, 2021, in Columbus, Miss. The Columbus Municipal School District hosted a discussion in response to the violence in the area.

achieve career goals. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Federal USA Jobs Workshop

The next Federal USA Jobs workshop is from 9-10:30 a.m. Mar. 2. This is a workshop on writing resumes, applications, and job search using the USAJobs website. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Transition Assistance Program Workshop

The next Transition Assistance Program (TAP) workshop is from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mar. 7-11 and includes seminars on: Transition, Military Occupational Code Crosswalk, Financial Planning, Health Benefits, Mississippi Department of Employment Security, Department of Veterans Affairs, Disabled TAP and Department of Labor. Preseparation counseling is required before attending, and recommended attendance is 12-24 months prior to separation/retirement. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. To register or for more information, please call the TAP Manager at (662) 434-2631/2790.

tion, please call the TAP Manager at (662) 434-2631/2790.

Bundles for Babies

The next "Zoom" Bundles for Babies workshop is from 1-3:30 p.m. Mar. 31. \This program is designed for active duty AF members and/or their spouses who are pregnant or have a child 4 months old or less. Attendees will learn about finances, labor and delivery, and infant care. A \$50 gift card sponsored by the Air Force Aid Society will be provided for each qualifying child. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Heart Link

The next "Zoom" Heart Link / Spouse Welcome is from 8:30 a.m.-noon Apr. 28. This half-day program is open to all spouses of active duty military members assigned to Columbus AFB. Attendees will receive information about life in the Air Force, in the local area and at Columbus AFB from local subject matter experts including spouse leaders. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

EFMP-FS

Exceptional Family Members Program-Family Support, EFMP-FS, establishes, implements and maintains the FS (community support) entity of the Air Force EFMP in coordination with the Medical & Assignments components by enhancing the quality of life of special needs family members. Feel free to contact (662) 434-3323/2790 for any questions related to EFMP or for one-on-one assistance. We can assess your needs and make the proper community referral for you and your family!

See COMMUNITY, Page 13

Chapel Schedule

Chapel services are now available.

Catholic: 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Sundays

Daily Mass: 11 a.m. Tuesday- Friday

Protestant: 9:30 a.m. on Sundays

As we gather for services there is a 50 person limit inside the chapel. Thank you all for your help during this time and we are looking forward to seeing you all soon!

BLAZE Hangar Tails: C-17 Globemaster

Mission

The C-17 Globemaster III is the newest, most flexible cargo aircraft to enter the airlift force. The C-17 is capable of rapid strategic delivery of troops and all types of cargo to main operating bases or directly to forward bases in the deployment area. The aircraft can perform tactical airlift and airdrop missions and can transport litters and ambulatory patients during aeromedical evacuations when required. The inherent flexibility and performance of the C-17 force improve the ability of the total airlift system to fulfill the worldwide air mobility requirements of the United States.

Background

The C-17 made its maiden flight on Sept. 15, 1991, and the first production model was delivered to Charleston Air Force Base, now known as Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, on June 14, 1993. The first squadron of C-17s, the 17th Airlift Squadron, was declared operationally ready Jan. 17, 1995. The Air Force originally programmed to buy 120 C-17s. Current budget plans increased the total number to 223 aircraft.

The C-17 is operated by Air Mobility Command at Travis AFB, California; Dover AFB, Delaware; Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington; Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, and Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey.

The Air National Guard flies C-17s from the 172d Airlift Wing, Jackson, Mississippi, and the 105th Airlift Wing, Stewart ANGB, New York. Additionally, Air Force Materiel Command operates two C-17s at Edwards AFB, California, and Pacific Air Forces operates aircraft at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

The Air Force Reserve Command operates aircraft at March Air Reserve Base, California, and Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio. Air Education and Training Command has 17 aircraft at Altus AFB, Oklahoma.

The Air Force Reserve Command operates aircraft at March Air Reserve Base, California, and Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio. Air Education and Training Command has 17 aircraft at Altus AFB, Oklahoma.

General Characteristics

Primary Function: Cargo and troop transport
Prime Contractor: Boeing Company
Power Plant: Four Pratt & Whitney F117-PW-100 turbofan engines
Thrust: 40,440 pounds, each engine
Wingspan: 169 feet 10 inches (to winglet tips) (51.75 meters)

Length: 174 feet (53 meters)
Height: 55 feet 1 inch (16.79 meters)
Cargo Compartment: length, 88 feet (26.82 meters); width, 18 feet (5.48 meters); height, 12 feet 4 inches (3.76 meters)
Speed: 450 knots at 28,000 feet (8,534 meters) (Mach .74)
Service Ceiling: 45,000 feet at cruising speed (13,716 meters)
Range: Global with in-flight refueling
Crew: Three (two pilots and one loadmaster)
Aeromedical Evacuation Crew: A basic crew of five (two flight nurses and three medical technicians) is added for aeromedical evacuation missions. Medical crew may be altered as required by the needs of patients
Maximum Peacetime Takeoff Weight: 585,000 pounds (265,352 kilograms)
Load: 102 troops/paratroops; 36 litter and 54 ambulatory patients and attendants; 170,900 pounds (77,519 kilograms) of cargo (18 pallet positions)
Unit Cost: \$202.3 million (fiscal 1998 constant dollars)
Date Deployed: June 1993
Inventory: Active duty, 187; Air National Guard, 12; Air Force Reserve, 14



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Amber Carter

A C-17 Globemaster III gets an early morning start on the flightline Oct. 24, 2018, at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. A C-17 has a maximum takeoff weight of 585,000 pounds and a wingspan of more than 169 feet.



US Air Force photo by Airman First Class Daniel A. Hernandez

A C-17 Globemaster III from Travis Air Force Base, California, takes off Oct. 31, 2018, from Ft. Knox, Kentucky. The C-17 Globemaster III is providing transportation of Soldiers, equipment and resources to assist Department of Homeland Security along the southwest border.

Air Force, Space Force, observe National Mentoring Month in January

John Cochran

377th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. — The Air Force and Space Force observe January as National Mentoring Month. It's a time to focus Airmen and Guardians on investing in the mentoring movement — as either mentor or a mentee.

Mentorship is a type of professional relationship in which a person with greater experience and wisdom guides another person to develop both personally and professionally. This relationship helps achieve mission success and motivates Airmen to achieve their goals.

The Department of the Air Force mentoring theme for 2022 is "Everyone Wins with Mentoring." To demonstrate victories and share the importance of mentoring, the services will hold multiple virtual events throughout the month, designed to foster and promote a Total Force mentoring culture. Airmen and Guardians are encouraged to participate in them and local mentoring events. Virtual events include:

Jan. 12 – Diversity Talks: Senior Leader Mentoring Panel
Jan. 18 – Mentoring panel for mid-tier ranks and grades
Jan. 20 – Mentoring panel for junior-tier ranks and grades
Jan. 25 – Mentor-centric mentoring workshop
Jan. 27 – Mentee-centric mentoring workshop

More information about the events is available at <https://www.milsuite.mil/university/fspds-orientation/national-mentoring-month-2022/>

Additionally, during National Mentoring Month, the Air Force and Space Force

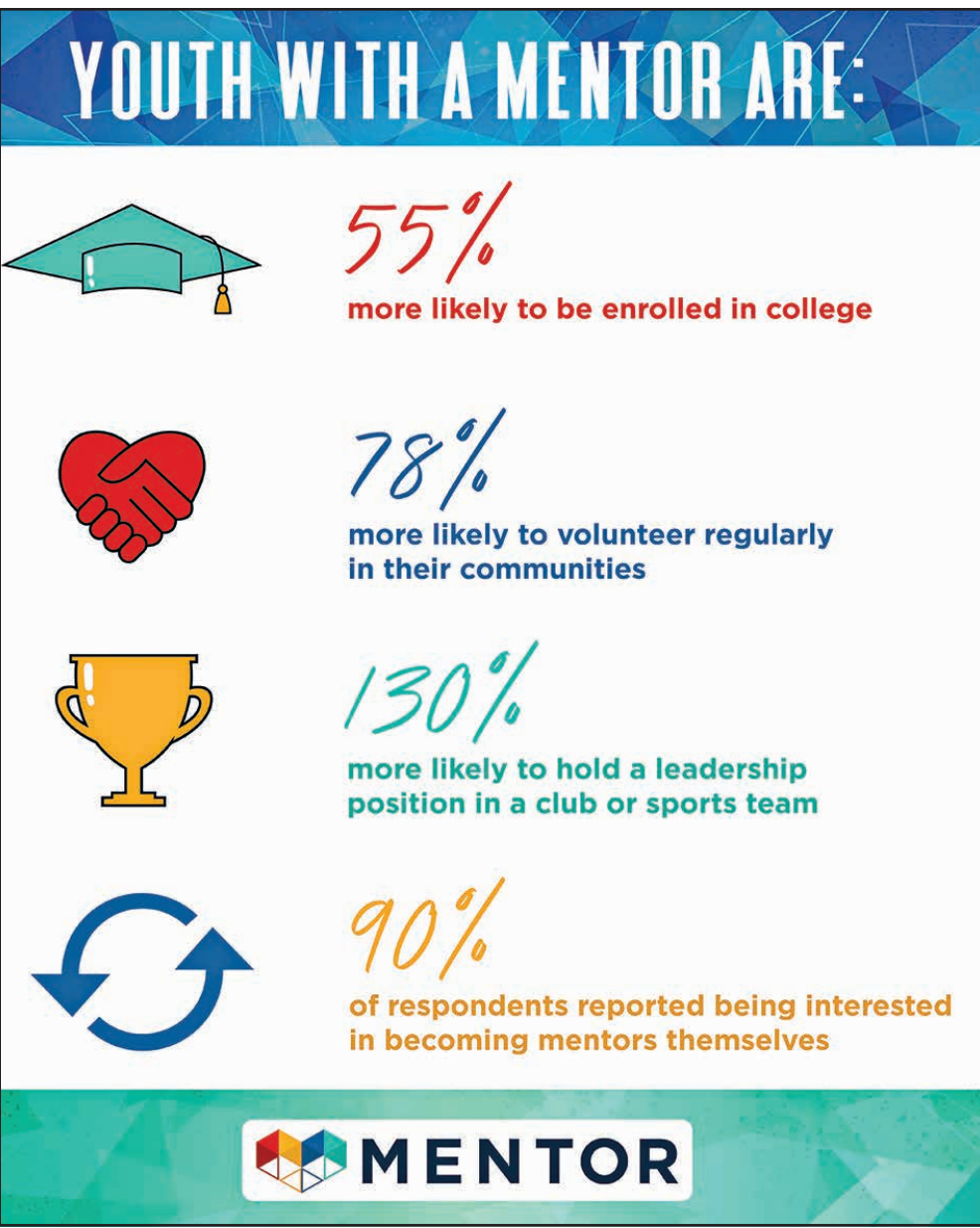


remind Airmen and Guardians about the MyVECTOR mentoring module capabilities. Everyone is encouraged to create and or update their profiles in the MyVECTOR mentoring module. A recorded MyVECTOR demonstration is available on the Mentoring Resources page. Check it out at <https://myvector.us.af.mil/myvector/Home>.

Air Force Handbook 36-2643 – "Air Force Mentoring Program" – says a mentor is "a wise, trusted, and experienced individual who shares knowledge, experience, and advice with a less-experienced person." Mentoring is an essential ingredient in developing well-rounded, professional, and competent future leaders. The overall goal of mentoring is to help Airmen – civilian, enlisted and officer – maximize their full potential. Mentors should focus on mentee development, with a goal of giving mentees the ability to manage their own development and learning.

The Air Force says, "Mentoring is an enterprise mission imperative. Leaders at all levels should be committed to building a culture of mentoring and increasing deliberate mentoring for all Airmen and Guardians."

For more information on National Mentoring Month, go to <https://www.mentoring.org>.





Visit us online!

Web page: www.columbus.af.mil

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ColumbusAFB

Twitter: www.twitter.com/Columbus_AFB



Visit www.columbus.af.mil to learn about Columbus AFB agencies and other important information.



T-1A Jayhawk



T-38C Talon

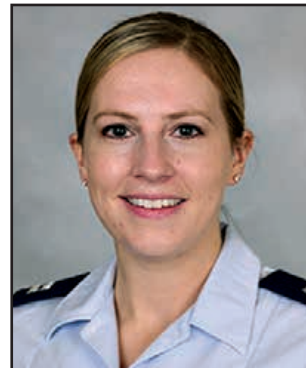
SUPT Class 22-04 earns silver wings



Capt. Dan Hodges
Sacramento, California
F-16



Capt. Jeffery Spurgin
San Bernardino, California
C-130J



Capt. Rebecca Wadey
Arlington, Washington
MC-130J

Twenty-four officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to become Air Force pilots.

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 22-04 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium.

Students will receive their silver pilot's wings at the ceremony, and students who excelled in their respective training tracks will be recognized.

First Lt. Brice Weathers, 1st Lt. Robert McKee and 2nd Lt. Eirik Cohn received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to 1st Lt. Scott Cararas and 2nd Lt. Jacob King who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association; promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

The distinguished graduates of Class 22-04 recognized were Weathers, McKee and Cohn for outstanding performance in academics, officer qualities and flying abilities.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight phase of academics and physiological training to prepare students for flight. The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the single-engine, turboprop T-6A Texan II at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Students learn

aircraft flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

Primary training takes approximately 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 hours in the T-6A aircraft.

After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

Both tracks are designed to best train pilots for successful transition to their follow-on aircraft and mission.

Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38C Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation. Training takes approximately 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground training, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 hours in the T-38C aircraft.

The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place Beech Jet 400 business jet. Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 53.6 hours in the flight simulator and 76.4 hours in the T-1A.



1st Lt. Simon Castro
Weston, Florida
C-130J



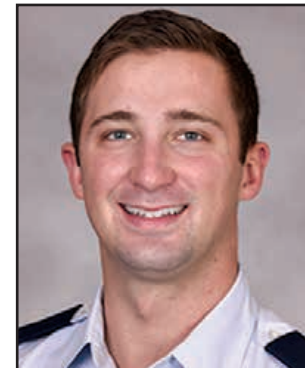
1st Lt. Austin Corbin
Port Orchard, Washington
U-28A



1st Lt. Ian Diebert
Portland, Oregon
A-10



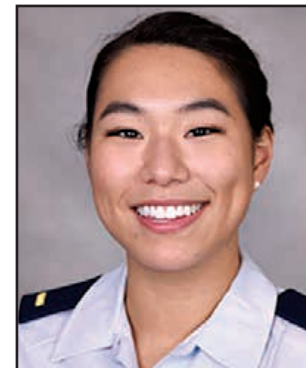
1st Lt. Caleb Blackwell
Aurora, Colorado
U-28A



1st Lt. William Borden
Chagrin Falls, Ohio
C-17



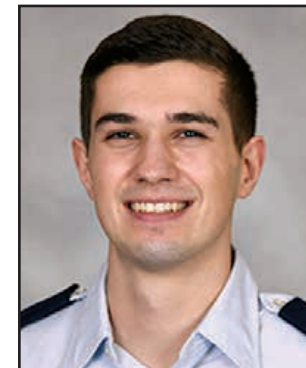
1st Lt. Scott Cararas
Monroe, Louisiana
C-17



1st Lt. Jane Li
Bellefonte, Pennsylvania
HC-130J



1st Lt. Robert McKee
Lee's Summit, Missouri
C-17



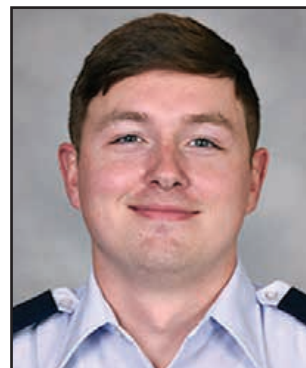
1st Lt. Patrick Megill
Howell, New Jersey
U-28A



1st Lt. Thomas Meyer
Rolling Meadows, Illinois
C-17



1st Lt. Steffen Mount
Pensacola, Florida
C-17



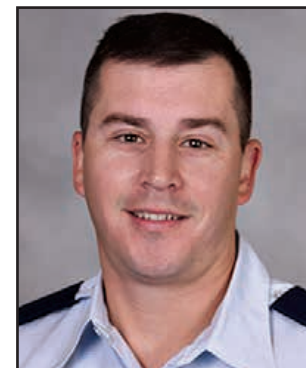
1st Lt. Nikolas Osborne
Nashville, Tennessee
T-6



1st Lt. Mark Roberson
Cedartown, Georgia
C-146A



1st Lt. Bennett Staton
New Bremen, Ohio
F-35



1st Lt. Conner Tolley
Camarillo, California
A-10



1st Lt. Alexander Vanover
Suwanee, Georgia
F-16



1st Lt. Brice Weathers
Beech Grove, Indiana
F-16



2nd Lt. Eirik Cohn
Cape May Court House, New Jersey
KC-135



2nd Lt. Jake King
Bethany, Missouri
C-130H



2nd Lt. Sam Reindl
Mason City, Iowa
F-16



2nd Lt. Ryan Strole
Brownsburg, Indiana
KC-135